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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : DONALD W. KENDRICK ET AL.
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Customer No. : 34704

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

In accordance with Applicants' continued duty of disclosure, the document on the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the Examiner's attention. A copy of the non-US-patent document WO 96/23168 is enclosed. Per MPEP 609 III A (3), also enclosed is a copy of the British Search Report in which said document is cited.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

The undersigned submits the above-identified reference for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that this reference is or is not material to the present invention or that this reference is or is not prior art with respect to the present invention.

No fee is believed to be due as a result of this response. Should the Commissioner determine that a fee is due, he is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 21-0279.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD W. KENDRICK ET AL.

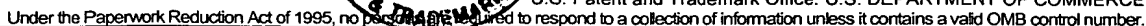
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Date: May 18, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on May 18, 2005


Antoinette Sullo



Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.